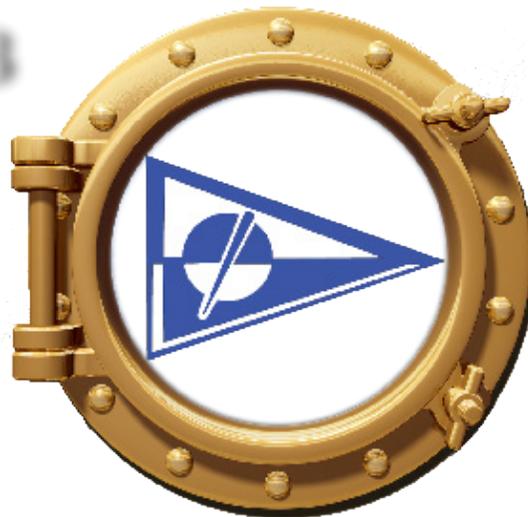


# BODKIN YACHT CLUB

# PORTHOLE

BECAUSE YOU NEED TO KNOW  
WHAT'S GOING ON



Issue #1, 2021 fiscal year

October 2020

## Commodore's Corner



Well, wasn't 2019-2020 just a humdinger! The hits and misses, the ups and downs and what about those foul balls! Through it all, Bodkin stands tall and still in the game. As the year winds down and the smoke clears, we at Bodkin have found a way to still use our club, enjoy our boats, have our meetings and improve our club. From where I stand that pretty much says it all. The clear and obvious adversity that has been thrown at us has been undeniable and frankly, just unbelievable.

As Commodore for this upcoming year, I couldn't be happier to have this opportunity to restart the engines of the club and hear the motors of our boats once again and bring the club together. I see the change in the way we have done things in the past and now how we have adapted new ways to get things done. Bodkin has spoken and has chosen a full and complete Bridge, and a very diverse Board to lead and represent. We have added new members to the club and I look forward to seeing them get involved and growing in the club.

*Commodore's Corner Continued on Page Two*

## Election Night Delivers Full Bridge for Bodkin



*L to R: Treas Liz Imhoff, Sec Josh Webster, F/C Bruce Hunter, R/C Roger Imhoff, V/C Rich Sokol, Comm Michael Meyer*

Bodkin Yacht Club enters the 2021 fiscal year with a full bridge. Election Night results:

Commodore Michael Meyer  
V/C Rich Sokol  
R/C Roger Imhoff  
F/C Bruce Hunter  
Secretary Josh Webster  
Treasurer Liz Imhoff

Seven members were elected to serve as Board Members. The alternate serves if any elected member is absent from a meeting. Elected Board of Governors:

P/C Gene Schenck  
P/C Will McCracken  
Captain Wade Christopher  
Captain Erich Steinnagel  
Captain Scott Webb  
Captain Fred Lobbin  
Captain Kyle Nickles (alternate)

*Commodore's Corner Continued from Page One*

This is the year to make moves, accept new ideas, and make it happen. Bodkin, let's grow this year! One of my favorite mantras is "We can, we will, we shall! Remember, "If you ain't at the Bodkin, you ain't rockin.!"

In closing, I couldn't be prouder to be your "Bodkin" Commodore for this new year. I offer a very humble and fond thank you to every member in the club. First Lady Bunny and I stand ready to represent and continue to make Bodkin the greatest club on the bay.

*Commodore Michael Meyer*

*Election Night Full Bridge contined from Page One*

Appointed Board Members:

- P/C Chuck Ervin (Entertainment Chair)
- P/C Steve Keefe (Ways and Means Chair)
- P/C Earl Lambert (ByLaws Chair)
- Captain Jonathan Monias (Club Steward)

Appointments and Committee Chairs

- New Member Chairman (Cpt. Rick Adlesic)
- Sunshine Chair (Pat Bredon)
- Chaplain (Rick Adlesic, Alt. Pat Bredon)
- Porthole Ed./Publisher(P/C Gene Schenck)
- Kitchen Steward (Cpt. Shawn Dunworth)
- Rear Fleet Captain (Chris Schenck)

There are additional committee chair appointments and other leadership positions to be filled in the coming months. If you want to step forward to support you club, let Commodore Michael or the other Flag Officers know about your desire to help.



## **Bodkin Yacht Club Porthole**

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P/C Gene Schenck  
Publisher/Editor  
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## **Editor's Note:**

The Porthole is YOUR club newspaper. I'd like to keep it a newspaper, not just a newsletter with official annoucnements. I welcome any stories you might like to send us. Stories can help us stay informed, but they should also entertain and be fun to read. If anyone is offended by the stuff I put in these issues, you can take a long walk on Liz and Roger Imhoff's finger pier.

*P/C Gene, Editor/Publisher*

# **ALL HANDS DAY AT BODKIN IS NOVEMBER 14**

All Hands Workday is November 14. Our remarkable clubhouse, docks and grounds got to be remarkable because members show up when needed to make improvements and perform maintenance. The work is good exercise and it offers opportunities to form friendships with your fellow members.

We will winterize the harbor clean up the leaves, put outdoor furniture into winter storage and clean and upgrade the club house.

Coffee and doughnuts at 8am. We hope to see you there. 

# Bodkin's "Hat Trick" is an Annual Tradition

Around a yacht club you hear plenty of talk about traditions. Truth be told, traditions hold us together and many times provide a road map for the people planning complicated events we all enjoy. In addition, many traditions are simply fun. The cruising members of our club look forward to traditions like a crab feast on the last night out of the week-long vacation cruise. We also enjoy the "Try On The White Hat" silliness during the cocktail party on the Labor Day Cruise.

The "hat" tradition has to do with honoring a member who is stepping up and at the same time encouraging others to think about it. It's also fun because we can look pretty silly when we put on a hat that is too small or too big – something that often plays into the fun.

It works like this: At a cocktail party during the Labor Day Cruise, the Fleet Captain announces that the club is looking for a new Fleet Captain to go up through the "Chairs" (That means serve as Fleet Captain, then Rear Commodore, then Vice Commodore and eventually serve as Club Commodore). It's a four year commitment to club leadership. But we have to have someone who looks good in uniform so we need to have any volunteers try on an officer's white hat so the cruise fleet can see how it looks.



The Hat Fits!

Surprisingly, it can actually get a member to think about leading our club. It also helps us flush out good members who might have some interest in serving. This year

the fleet voted unanimously that Bruce Hunter looks great in an officer's hat so he's the toast of the fleet. A month later, he is the real deal. Bruce is our Fleet Captain. Thanks for stepping up Bruce!

The Porthole also presents photos of some others who tried on the "hat." We encourage all of you to encourage them because next year is less than a year away. 



Others who dared to try "The Hat:"  
Steve Danko  
Frank Eberle  
Barb Gunther  
Kyle Nickles



## Labor Day at Tolchester

The 2020 Labor Day Cruise slipped into Tolchester for a great weekend of music, food and fun. Pool restrictions forced us to wade in the Bay at the beach. Fleet Captain Roger Imhoff (Lame Duck Roger) treated us to steaks grilled by Steve Danko. Crescent Yacht Club was also under the sheds at Tolchester for the weekend. 

# Fleet Review 2020 Was Great



Princess KylieAnne, V/C Michael and First Lady Betty received salutes from the Fleet.

Fleet Review is one of those celebrations that turns up on our calendar every fall. A mystery to new members and a treasured tradition to the rest of us, it is a parade, party and dinner rolled into one great event as the weather begins to turn. The event is organized by the Bodkin Fleet Captain. Rear Commodore Roger Imhoff was Fleet Captain at the time of this year's Review and he and our Treasurer, Liz, did a remarkable job staging and hosting it.

The Review began with a Captain's meeting, which was a new and welcomed addition to the program. After instructions on forming the boat parade, Roger had the vessels leave the piers in the seniority order that would determine the order of the boats on the water. The club's fleet then arrived and circled in Jubb's Cove for half an hour or more before heading back up the creek where each Bodkin Captain and his passengers honored the Vice Commodore, Princess KylieAnne and First Lady Betty Haber.

After the parade, the Bodkin boats rapidly refilled the slips and we all headed to the Dining Room, where Roger and Liz managed to seat



Princess KylieAnne



Lame Duck F/C Roger



First Lady Betty Haber

a good size crowd of members adhering to all distancing and Covid-19 advisories. The event featured a wonderful dinner, served in style, prepared by talented Bodkin members and enjoyed by all. It's not surprising that the Fleet Review is one of our best-loved traditions. If you missed it, you missed the boat, er

boats, and missed a great event. Put it on your bucket list for 2021. 



Good times come from member support. Some important members were not in white uniforms. Porthole salutes the kitchen crew for Fleet Review. Gordon Learn, Pat Bredon, Paul Geppert, Kathy Esposito, Kurt Friesland.

**YOU GUYS ROCK!**

## Looking Good is Only Part of the Story

Uh Oh, three of our Bodkin beauties arrive at the club in the same dress! Almost.

Lilly Pulitzer, born in 1931, a schoolmate of Jacqueline Bouvier, designed bright floral print dresses. She and her husband owned several orange groves in Florida. While working at her fruit juice stand, she got the idea for designing clothing to camouflage the juice stains she acquired from squeezing fresh fruit juice. Her customers loved her shift dresses and bought so many that she went into business designing and selling clothing. An authentic Lilly Pulitzer has the word Lilly somewhere in its design. Solid prints may have it in the lace lining. 



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## Red Wine or White Wine?



*Did you spill any of that red wine on your uniform?*

When you spill white wine on your white uniform, you realize why people drink white wine. When you spill red wine on your whites, you reaffirm the selection of Chardonnay or Pinot Grigio. But this is a story that can save your pants.

A Bodkin Past Commodore, attending the Fleet Review Dinner, managed to spill an entire glass of Merlot on his uniform shirt and white trousers. See photo.

While the P/C was certain the damage required another visit to Howard Uniform for a new set of whites, his Past First Lady sprang into action. Chris immediately put the uniform in water in the boat sink overnight. She repeatedly rinsed it and took it home soaking in water in a plastic bag. The next day she treated it with OxiClean® before I took it to Zips®.

A day later the uniform was back on the hangers. There is not one trace of red wine on the whites. Go figure.....



# From the BYC Auxiliary

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## Let's Do This!

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BYC Membership,

I'm honored to serve as the new Chair of the BYC Auxiliary! My family has been members for almost 20 years and BYC has truly become a second home and the membership extended family. I'm excited to say the group is energized and busy planning what we would like to accomplish in the upcoming year. We recently got together for a Brainstorming Session, had a lot of fun, some fabulous Spiced Pear Martinis and came up with some great ideas on which to focus our energy. During this session, the group shared the first 1-2 words that come to mind when they hear BYC. This was amazing to be a part of as the group recognized how truly grateful and privileged we are to be a part of such a great club.

Stay tuned for the goodness to come. I hope to see you around soon.

Happy Everything,

Ashton Keefe, Patriot GamesBYC Auxiliary Chair



The group shared the first 1-2 words that come to mind when they hear BYC. **AWESOME!**

## Bodkin Wedding Bells



P/C Earl Lambert and Bert on their wedding day, August 14th. They were married at the Annapolis Wedding Chapel.



**Princess Coronation  
is November 8th.  
Don't Miss a Nice Event.  
You Already Bought  
One Ticket.**

## Is This a Great Place or What?



### *Members make it great*

Bodkin's success comes from the members who do stuff. Members build things, repair things, cook, serve, create, cruise, help each other and step up to help when they are needed. The most amazing people behind our great club are frequently people behind the scenes. While some great members get plenty of attention, there are some who work alone, unseen, and unnoticed.

This issue's case in point involves the beautiful flower planters on the front patio. The flowers have never looked better! They are overflowing the planters. Give credit for that to Linda Covey, who tends the flowers when most of us are not around to see her work. Her efforts are beautiful. She took on this responsibility and never looked back. She did not need encouragement or instruction. She even risked getting clobbered by a large falling tree branch, but she never gave up. The Porthole salutes what you've done all year, Linda. Thanks from the Porthole and we urge all of you to thank Linda when you see her.



# Can You Identify This Weird Thing?



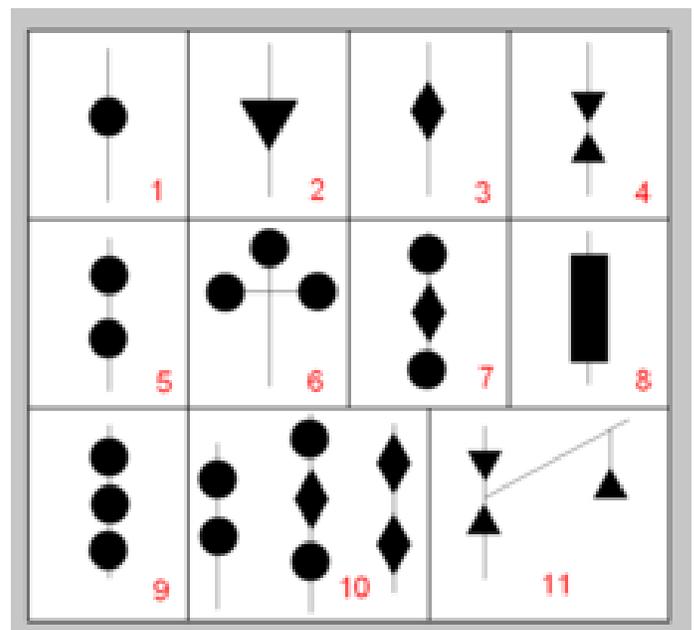
The object above has been described as an upside-down witch's hat or a black funnel. Do you know what it is? Those of you who have a Captain's License may know the answer and the sailors should learn about it. The shape is called a "Steaming Cone." It is used on a sailboat, hoisted by a halyard and flown between the forestay and the mast. It lets other vessels know that you are under power, not sail. It is required by the Coast Guard for vessels over 12 meters (39.4 feet).

The cones are hard to find. In my many years on the water, I have NEVER seen one in use. The Steaming Cone is one of several "Day Shapes" required by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (ColRegs). Day shapes are mast head signals visually indicating the status of a vessel to other vessels on navigable waters during daylight hours whether making-way, anchored, or aground.

These signals consist of a set of simple geometric shapes—ball, cylinder, cone, and diamond—that are displayed, hung from a mast, in a prescribed manner to indicate a vessel's operation-

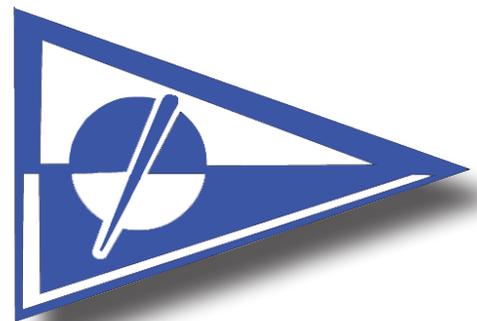
al status; some of these signals may be somewhat involved. The meanings of the shapes are defined by the ColRegs.

A black ball shape flown on the bow indicates a vessel at anchor (called an "anchor ball"). The witch's hat indicates a sailing vessel under power. A black diamond communicates that a vessel is either being towed or is towing another vessel. One final note is that three black balls on the bow indicate the vessel is aground or flown on a naval vessel it indicates minesweeping operations.



- 1 = vessel at anchor
- 2 = sailing vessel under power
- 3 = vessel towing or vessel under tow
- 9 = vessel aground or mine sweeping

4,5, 6, 7,8,10, 11 = future issue



## Hershey Family Gives Back to Bodkin for Many Years



The Hersheys are an active boating family from Pennsylvania. They are enthusiastic cruisers and adventure seeking Bay boaters. Patriarch, Charlie Hershey, his wife Ginger and son Michael have been active at Bodkin Yacht Club since 2007. The Hersheys started boating in the '90s on the Lake Clarke section of the Susquehanna just south of Wrightsville, PA, which nurtured many boaters within our clubs. They were good members of Susquehanna Yacht. But that pond was too small for this boating family so Bodkin got a nice influx of hard workers. They were avid sailors who switched to a 44 foot trawler after decades under sail, then made the move back to sail. Then, as things go, they outgrew the Chesapeake and the family untied the family's 48 foot Soverel, OHANA, and headed down the ICW for the last off season.

The Hershey clan: Charie & Ginger, Mi-

chael & Shelly, & Princess KylieAnne, is well known in our club. Like many of you, they are always willing to help and it's always nice to see and spend time with them. KylieAnne is spending her second year serving as our Club Princess, which requires many hours of travel and attendance at more events than most teens would be willing to attend. Her Dad, Michael, also puts in the miles and hours helping arrange her participation.

Michael Hershey now runs the family business. Before that he was an IT technical services manager for a Pennsylvania company. Meanwhile at Bodkin Yacht Club, Michael programs and manages the club's proximity membership door cards that also serve as Point of Sale cards the members use to spend their scrip on food, drinks and events.

The Hershey family owns a large Pennsylvania-based Porta Potty business, renting more than 300 portable units at construction sites and public events throughout a wide area. A few weeks ago, the Hersheys provided 37 portable toilets for a giant Trump rally at Harrisburg International Airport. As remarkable supporting members of Bodkin, the Hersheys have placed two portable toilet units on the lower roadway near the A and B Piers and at Bodkin's floating pool. The Hersheys have provided those units at no cost to Bodkin Yacht Club year-round for many years. That



is a significant financial contribution, which the family supports from their base in Pennsylvania. The Porthole asks you to thank the Hersheys for their support of our club. 

# Goodbye Commodore Ray

## *Commodore Ray Haber Laid to Rest in Swan Creek*



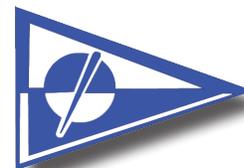
A fleet of Bodkin boats loaded with friends and family of IPC Ray Haber gathered in Swan Creek October 19th for a short ceremony to place Ray's ashes into the waters he loved. Past First Lady Betty was supported by friends from near and far, Pennsylvania to Westminster.... Sail and power. Thanks to the Steve and Diane Danko for sharing photos of the event.



First Lady Betty places Ray's ashes into the water



Ceremonial Miller Lite poured in memory of Ray



# PAUL GEPPERT'S BOX

## *Fake News Lives at Bodkin!*

If you remember the Porthole's adventures with Paul Geppert's mysterious white box, the last we visited this saga, a black helicopter was stalking our farmhouse. Since then, several unexplained weird events seem to be linked to this device that became entangled in Paul's propeller on the trip to Herrington Harbor South.

In late August a line of Trump/Pence yard signs were stolen from the road in front of our farm. We expected it was deranged pranksters, but security camera footage showed the heist was pulled off and the signs pulled up by a team of four men in black suits and Wingtips. So it was not political or a prank... it was a team of highly trained agents who thought the signs interrupted sightlines into the house where the mystery box has been hidden away.

A few days later our security alarms triggered and the floodlights came on to expose a frogman standing just outside our window. Flippers, mask, air tank, and an all black wetsuit, and he was dripping



wet. Obviously after Geppert's mystery box, but the real mystery is where did he swim here from? We have a shallow Koi pond and a small meandering creek deep enough for frogs and a turtle.

This highly suspicious aquatic activity led to the cancellation of the Bodkin Flag Officer Election Debates scheduled for early September. The debates would have been moderated by Porthole Editor in Chief, P/C Gene Schenck. Each candidate would have had two minutes to spread political crap about their programs and



then their opponents could also make stuff up. It was all arranged: Meyers, Sokol, Imhoff and Hunter had perfected their sound bites and smirky smiles. Hunter was ready with his 160 decibel whistle to call out the lies from would-be challengers. In the end, the security of the Bodkin Bridge was at stake and because of all the mysterious happenings, the Great Debates were cancelled due to an abundance of all kinds of caution and other silly reasons.



Then it happened again.... Another helicopter! This one only feet from our chimney. Not a black one, this one was red with a cross on the rotor mast. For no apparent reason, it hovered over the house for some time before disappearing over the trees to the east. Some online research uncovered a link to a religious organization.

Only a day or so later, the Geppert Box drew more visitors. This time, three Jehovah

Witness missionaries were on the porch and had me captive because I didn't look before opening the door. The woman who spoke was ordinary and her words were harmless as she handed me little paper booklets. But then the man in overalls asked about a box and showed me another booklet with a photo of Paul's box on the cover. "The Lord is seeking truth," he said, staring over me to peer into our home. I slipped back inside the door, closed it and watched them through the peephole as they climbed into a black SUV.

By the weekend, huge peaceful protests broke out on the A-Pier by the picnic table. Peaceful-powerboat-protestors waved signs attacking the sailors, while peaceful-sailboat-protestors had banners disrespecting powerboats. Both sides made sure



*Peaceful A-Pier protestors*

they were peacefully protesting as they lit fire to the pier and sliced hoses and docklines. By the time the shooting began, the peaceful protestors were too drunk to aim their grenade launchers and automatic weapons. When the Bodkin Officer of the Day walked down the pier, the peaceful protestors morphed into their "super peaceful" modes, with smiles and friendly comments. The "O-D" stepped thru the rubble over broken signs and walked through the spray from damaged hoses, then

wiped his tears from the smoke and pepper spray before meandering off the pier satisfied that all was well.

Sunday evening the suspense and mystery became unbearable as more peaceful protestors circled the clubhouse with signs and banners that read "Defund the Porthole!" and "Porthole Prints Fake News!" With the understanding that gunplay is not allowed on the upper level, I borrowed the soaker hose from the Landscaping Nazi and let them have it. Wet peaceful protestors wandered away, but three men in black suits and wingtips were looking for something in my VW.

The Bodkin Bridge later discovered that a hollow tree actually contained hidden radio tracking devices and eavesdropping microphones. They ordered the tree to be removed.



*Spy tree full of "bugs"*

To demonstrate a serious commitment to transparency and honorable journalism, I am giving up ownership of Geppert's mystery box. This weekend you will find it on display in the Members Lounge. Take it home if you dare. They will find you.



*Geppert's Box*



## ***PORTHOLE* BUY, SELL, TRADE**

- Member looking to acquire Bodkin-approved dockbox. Call Captain Paul Geppert.
- Past First Lady looking to trade clumsy wine-spilling husband for good John Deere Tractor. Call Chris Schenck
- Two-boat owners want to hear from you. Call ~~Butch Gunther~~ Patrick Connelly, ~~Michael Hershey~~ **SOLD!**, Bill Covey, Gene Schenck et al
- Funny little white Styrofoam box that attracts attention. It can be yours. Call Geppert, he will trade it for a dock box.
- *PORTHOLE* ads get results. Ask former two-boat owners Butch Gunther and Michael Hershey

**IDEAS  
WANTED**



For two years our meeting hall had lighted portraits of Bodkin Queens Mia and Du-layne at the front of the room. Recently we had a portrait of IPC Ray Haber. The *Porthole* wants to know what you think. We are looking for suggestions. Suggestions to date:

- Aerial of Bodkin Creek
- Aerial of Club and Docks
- Photo of Green dolphin 7
- Photo of the old Seven Foot Knoll Light
- Chart section of Bodkin Creek or Northern Bay